

# Cutting Edge Technologies Presentation: An Overview of Developing Sensor Technology Directions and Possible Barriers to New Technology Implementation

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The aerospace industry requires the development of a range of chemical sensor technologies for such applications as leak detection, emission monitoring, fuel leak detection, environmental monitoring, and fire detection. A range of chemical sensors are being developed based on micromachining and microfabrication technology to fabricate microsensors with minimal size, weight, and power consumption; and the use of nanomaterials and structures to develop sensors with improved stability combined with higher sensitivity. However, individual sensors are limited in the amount of information that they can provide in environments that contain multiple chemical species. Thus, sensor arrays are being developed to address detection needs in such multi-species environments. These technologies and technical approaches have direct relevance to breath monitoring for clinical applications. This presentation gives an overview of developing cutting-edge sensor technology and possible barriers to new technology implementation. This includes lessons learned from previous microsensor development, recent work in development of a breath monitoring system, and future directions in the implementation of cutting edge sensor technology.

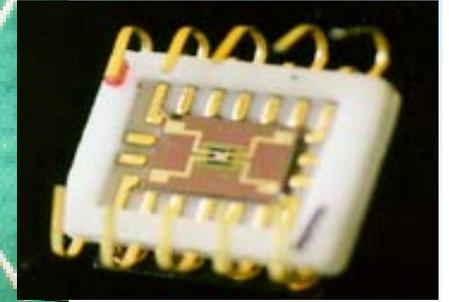
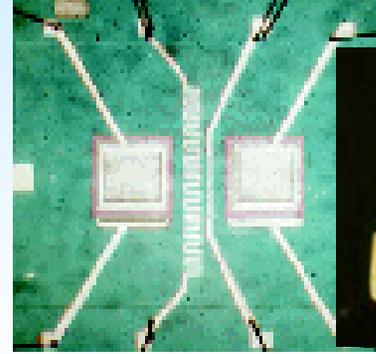
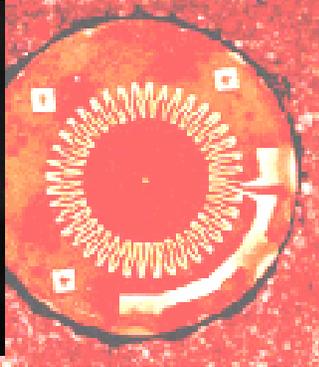
**Cutting Edge Technologies Presentation:**  
**An Overview of Developing Sensor Technology**  
**Directions and Possible Barriers to New**  
**Technology Implementation**

**Gary W. Hunter, Ph.D.**  
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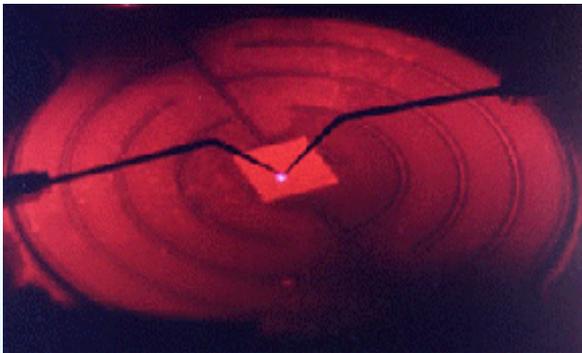
# SENSORS AND ELECTRONICS BRANCH

## SCOPE OF WORK

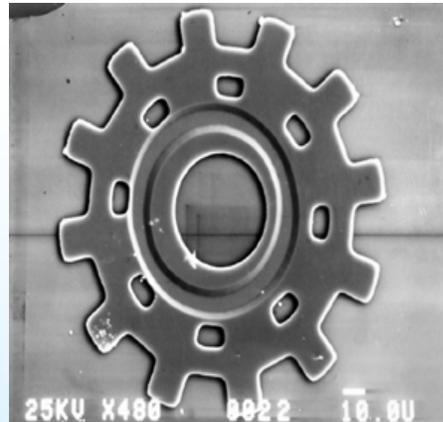


**PHYSICAL SENSORS (T, Strain, Heat Flux)**

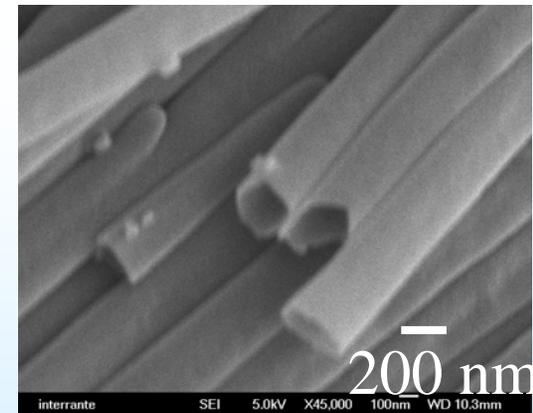
**CHEMICAL SENSORS**



**SILICON CARBIDE HIGH  
TEMP ELECTRONICS**



**MICRO-ELECTRO-  
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS**

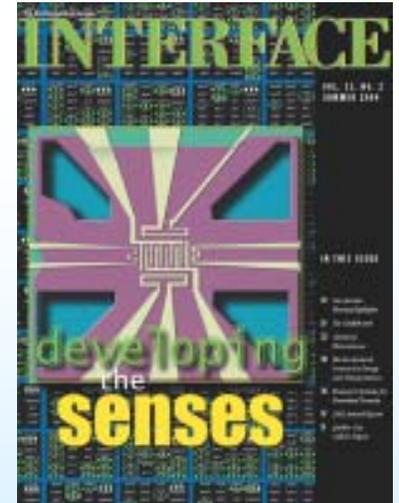


**NANOTECHNOLOGY**



# MICROFABRICATED GAS SENSORS

- **COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN NASA GRC, CASE WESTERN RESERVE, and OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**
- **SENSOR DEVELOPMENT RESULTING FROM:**
  - **IMPROVEMENTS IN MICROFABRICATION AND MICROMACHINING TECHNOLOGY**
  - **NANOMATERIALS**
  - **DEVELOPMENT OF SiC-BASED SEMICONDUCTOR TECHNOLOGY**
- **GAS DETECTION IN:**
  - **HARSH ENVIRONMENTS**
  - **APPLICATIONS BEYOND CAPABILITIES OF COMMERCIAL SENSORS**
- **PLATFORMS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED FOR A VARIETY OF MEASUREMENTS**
  - SCHOTTKY DIODE**
  - RESISTANCE BASED**
  - ELECTROCHEMICAL**
- **TARGET DETECTION OF GASES OF FUNDAMENTAL INTEREST**
  - HYDROGEN (H<sub>2</sub>)**
  - HYDROCARBONS (C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>)**
  - NITROGEN OXIDES (NO<sub>x</sub>) AND CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)**
  - OXYGEN (O<sub>2</sub>)**
  - CARBON DIOXIDE (CO<sub>2</sub>)**
  - HYDRAZINE**



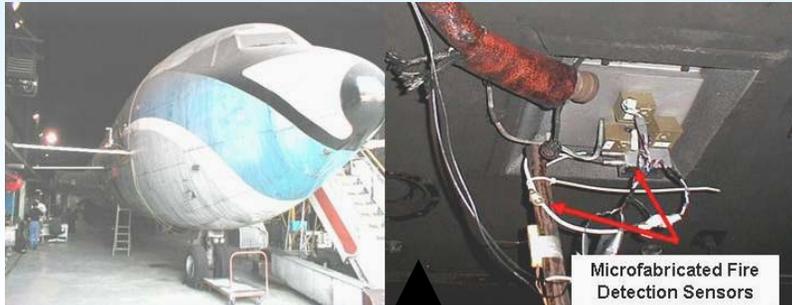
NASA GRC/CWRU O<sub>2</sub> Sensor  
Featured On the Cover of the  
Electrochemical Society Interface  
Magazine



# BASE PLATFORM SENSOR TECHNOLOGY

Integration of Micro Sensor Combinations into Small, Rugged Sensor Suites  
Example Applications: AEROSPACE VEHICLE FIRE, FUEL LEAKS, EMISSIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING CREW HEALTH, SECURITY

Multi Species Fire Sensors  
for Aircraft Cargo Bays

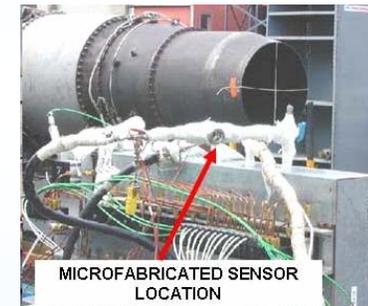
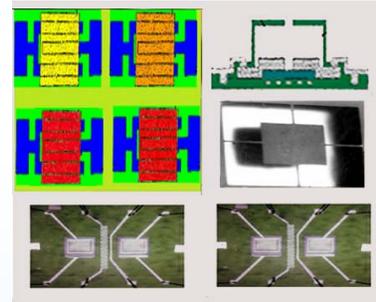


Microfabricated Fire Detection Sensors

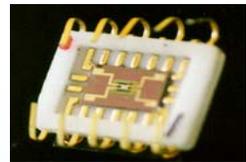
"Lick and Stick" Space Launch Vehicle  
Leak Sensors with Power and Telemetry



Aircraft Propulsion Exhaust High Temperature Electronic Nose



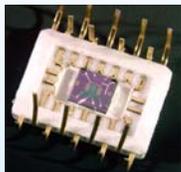
MICROFABRICATED SENSOR LOCATION



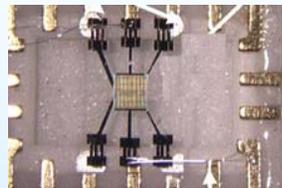
Oxygen Sensor



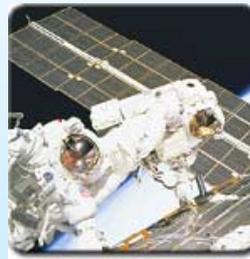
SiC Hydrocarbon Sensor



H2 Sensor



Nanocrystalline Tin Oxide NOx and CO Sensor



Sensor Equipped Prototype Medical Pulmonary Monitor

Hydrazine EVA Sensors  
(11 ppb Detection)



## BASE PLATFORM SENSOR TECHNOLOGY

### •SENSOR DEVELOPMENT RESULTING FROM:

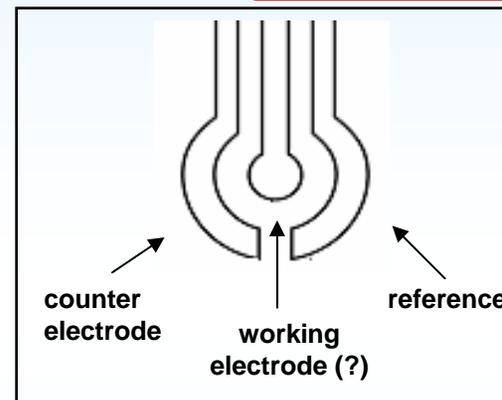
- MICROFABRICATION AND MICROMACHINING TECHNOLOGY
- NANOMATERIALS
- SiC-BASED SEMICONDUCTOR TECHNOLOGY

### •TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPS PLATFORMS FOR A VARIETY OF MEASUREMENTS

- SCHOTTKY DIODE
- RESISTANCE BASED
- ELECTROCHEMICAL

### • MODIFY PLATFORMS AND MATERIALS TO MEET NEEDS OF THE APPLICATION

### BASIC APPROACH



**Electrochemical  
Cell Platform  
formed by  
Microprocessing**

**Vary Substrate and Sensor  
Materials Depending on Application**

**Meet the Needs of a  
Range of Applications  
Based On Platform  
Technology**

High Temp  
O<sub>2</sub>  
Detection

High Temp  
CO<sub>2</sub>  
Detection

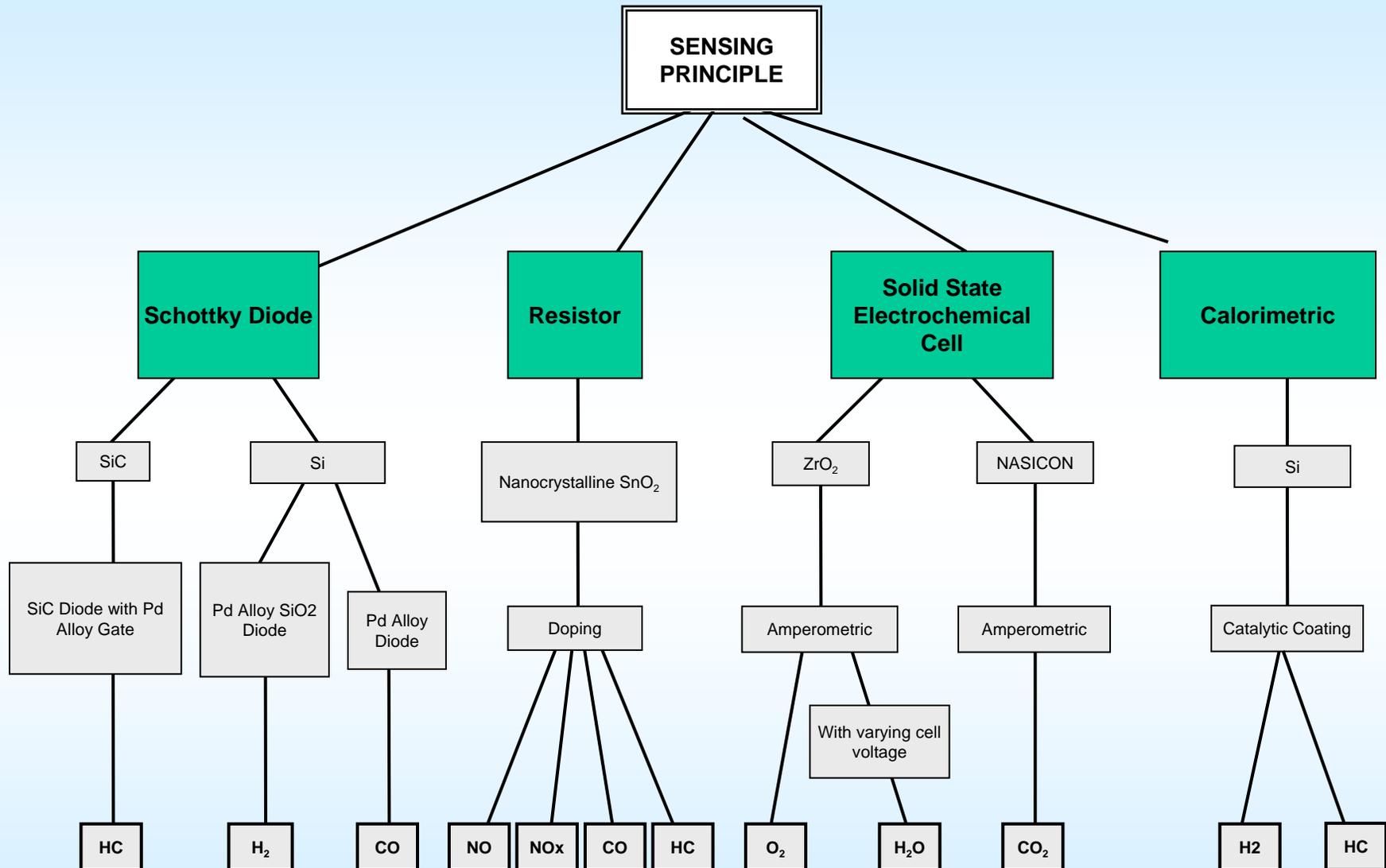
Room  
Temp O<sub>2</sub>  
Detection

Glucose  
sensor

Ca<sup>++</sup>  
Detection

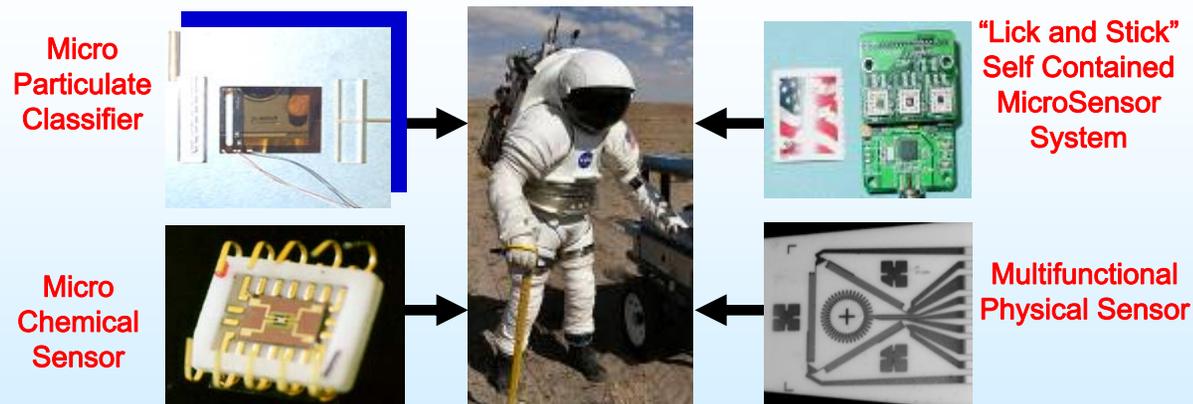


# CHEMICAL SENSOR "FAMILY TREE"



# One Potential EVA Vision: “Smart” Suit

- Development of a “Smart” Suit which has self-monitoring, caution and warning, and control capabilities with high levels of reliability, durability, and safety.
- Small, lightweight, low power sensor systems, with increased packaging flexibility, will improve the effectiveness and extensibility of the EVA suits.
- Seamless integration of sensors throughout EVA system improving reliability and capability without significantly increasing system wiring and power.
- Monitor Both Inside And Outside the EVA Suit for Astronaut Health and Safety\Suit Maintenance
  - Inside: For Example, Monitor Suit CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, Temperature, And Pressure
  - Outside: For Example, Monitor Dust/Toxic Gas/Dangerous Conditions Before Brought Back Into Airlock Or Can Affect Astronaut Safety.



A “SMART” SUIT NEEDS TO MONITOR BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CONDITIONS



# POSSIBLE STEPS TO REACH INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS

## •“LICK AND STICK” TECHNOLOGY (EASE OF APPLICATION)

- Micro and nano fabrication to enable multipoint inclusion of sensors, actuators, electronics, and communication throughout the vehicle without significantly increasing size, weight, and power consumption. Multifunctional, adaptable technology included.

## •RELIABILITY:

- Users must be able to believe the data reported by these systems and have trust in the ability of the system to respond to changing situations e.g. decreasing sensors should be viewed as decreasing the available information flow about a vehicle. Inclusion of intelligence more likely to occur if it can be trusted.

## •REDUNDANCY AND CROSS-CORRELATION:

- If the systems are easy to install, reliable, and do not increase weight/complexity, the application of a large number of them is not problematic allowing redundant systems, e.g. sensors, spread throughout the vehicle. These systems will give full-field coverage of the engine parameters but also allow cross-correlation between the systems to improve reliability of sensor data and the vehicle system information.

## •ORTHOGONALITY:

- Systems should each provide a different piece of information on the vehicle system. Thus, the mixture of different techniques to “see, feel, smell, hear” as well as move can combine to give complete information on the vehicle system as well as the capability to respond to the environment.



## SENSOR AND INSTRUMENTATION DEVELOPMENT

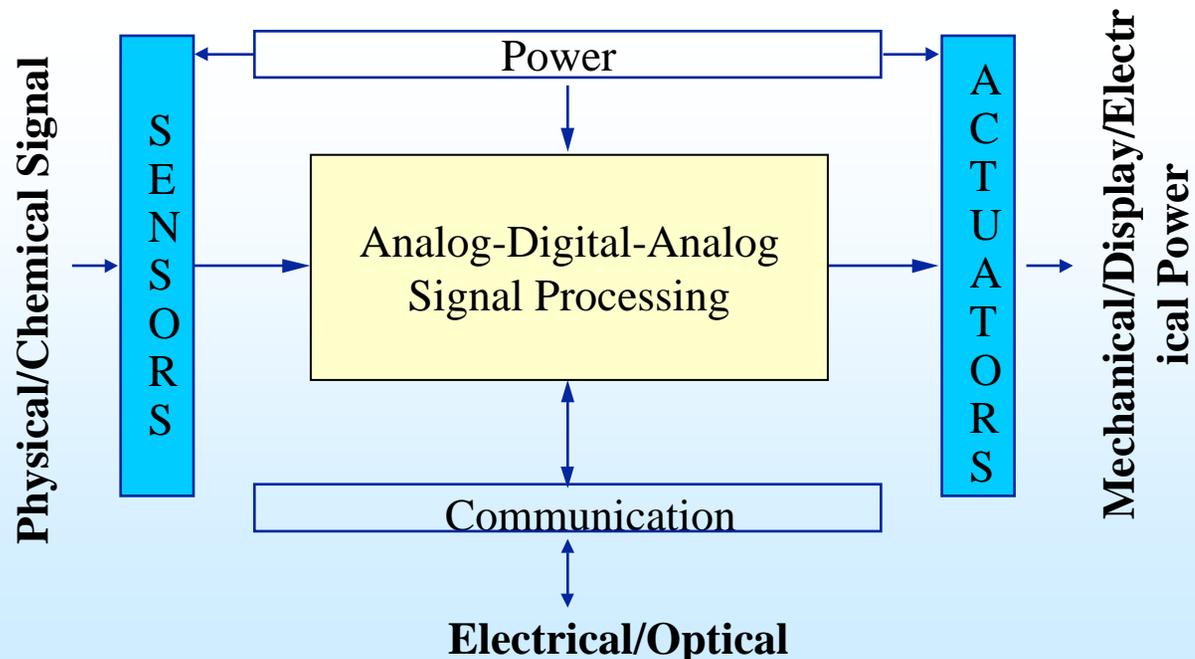
- **ONE INTELLIGENT SYSTEM APPROACH: A SELF-AWARE SYSTEM COMPOSED OF SMART COMPONENTS MADE POSSIBLE BY SMART SENSOR SYSTEMS**
- **SENSOR SYSTEMS ARE NECESSARY AND ARE NOT JUST GOING TO SHOW UP WHEN NEEDED/TECHNOLOGY BEST APPLIED WITH STRONG INTERACTION WITH USER**
- **SENSORS SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION OFTEN PROBLEMATIC**
  - **LEGACY SYSTEMS**
  - **CUSTOMER ACCEPTANCE**
  - **LONG-TERM VS SHORT-TERM CONSIDERATIONS**
  - **SENSORS NEED TO BUY THEIR WAY INTO AN APPLICATION**
- **SENSOR DIRECTIONS INCLUDE:**
  - **INCREASE MINIATURIZATION/INTEGRATED INTELLIGENCE**
  - **MULTIFUNCTIONALITY/MULTIPARAMETER MEASUREMENTS/ORTHOGONALITY**
  - **INCREASED ADAPTABILITY**
  - **COMPLETE STAND-ALONE SYSTEMS (“LICK AND STICK” SYSTEMS)**
- **POSSIBLE LESSONS LEARNED**
  - **SENSOR SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE TAILORED FOR THE APPLICATION**
  - **MICROFABRICATION IS NOT JUST MAKING SOMETHING SMALLER**
  - **ONE SENSOR OR EVEN ONE TYPE OF SENSOR OFTEN WILL NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM: THE NEED FOR SENSOR ARRAYS**
  - **SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGIES OFTEN DETERMINE SUCCESS OF A SYSTEM**



# CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY

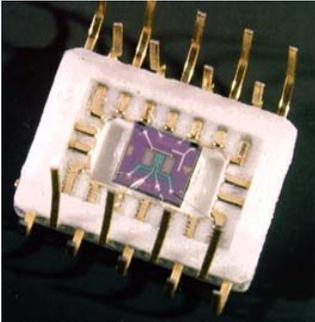
- THIS PRESENTATION DISCUSSES A RANGE OF GAS SENSOR TECHNOLOGY
- ILLUSTRATING BOTH THE SENSOR TECHNOLOGY TRENDS AND LESSONS LEARNED
- EXAMPLES REVOLVE AROUND MICROSYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY
- DISCUSS THE VIABILITY OF NANOTECHNOLOGY
- EXAMPLES REVOLVE AROUND AEROSPACE APPLICATIONS BUT HAVE BROADER IMPLICATIONS
- IMPLEMENTATION IN BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS
- FUTURE DIRECTIONS

## Microsystem Block Diagram



# MINIATURIZED SYSTEM TAILORED FOR THE APPLICATION

## HYDROGEN LEAK SENSOR TECHNOLOGY



- *MASS SPECTROMETER CANNOT BE USED IN-FLIGHT; SENSOR SYSTEM TO PROVIDE NEEDED FUNCTIONALITY*
- MICROFABRICATED USING MEMS-BASED TECHNOLOGY FOR MINIMAL SIZE, WEIGHT AND POWER CONSUMPTION
- HIGHLY SENSITIVE IN INERT OR OXYGEN-BEARING ENVIRONMENTS, WIDE CONCENTRATION RANGE DETECTION

1995 R&D 100 AWARD WINNER

NASA 2003 TURNING GOALS INTO REALITY SAFETY AWARD

Shuttle



Aft Compartment  
Hydrogen Monitoring

X33



Hydrogen Safety  
Monitoring

X43



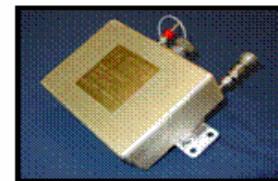
Hydrogen Safety  
Monitoring

Helios



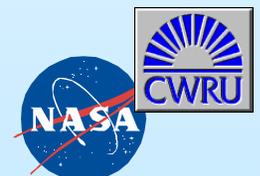
Fuel Cell Safety and  
Process Monitoring

ISS



Life Support Process  
and Safety Monitoring

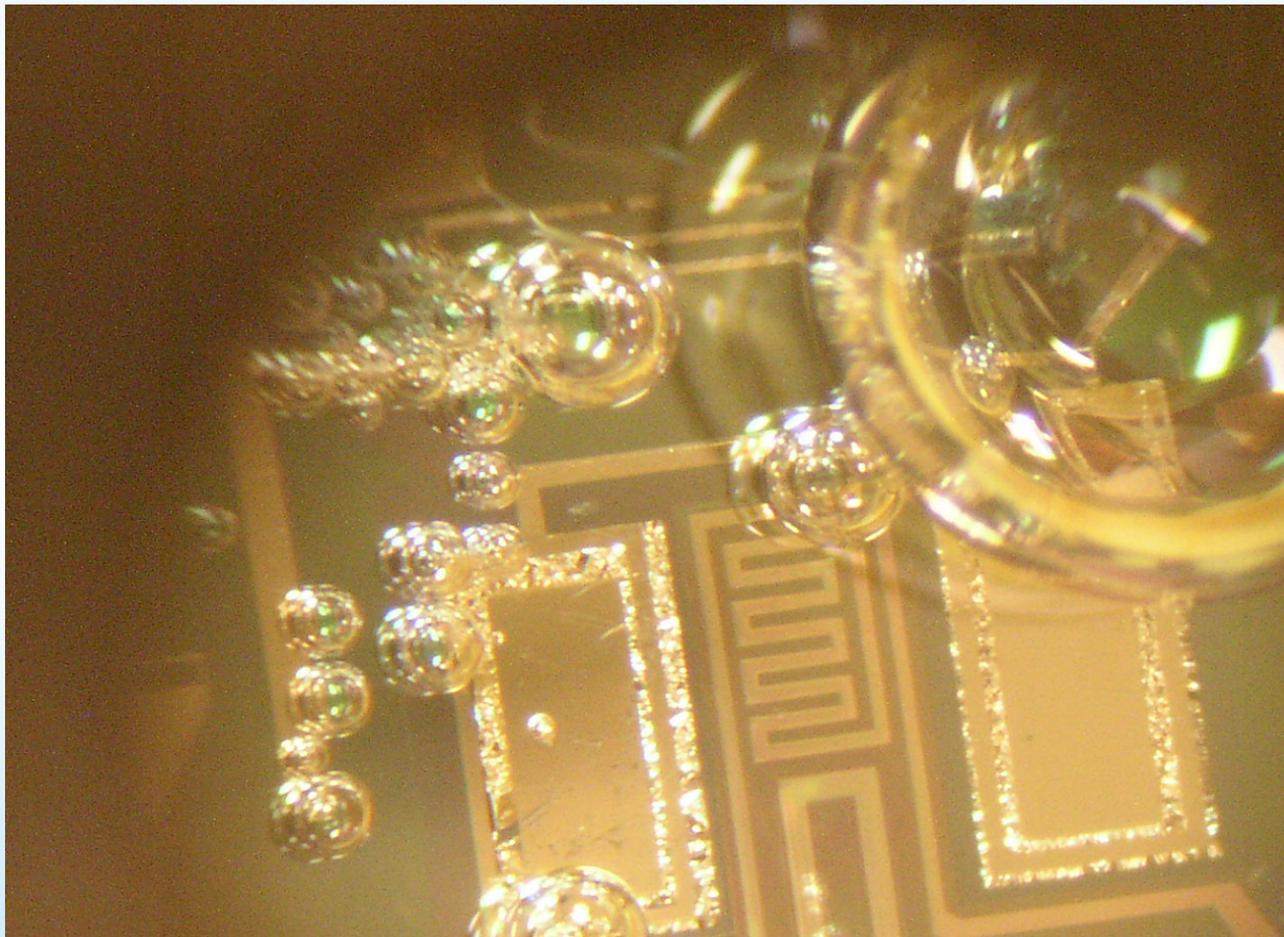
**MEI** Makel Engineering Inc.



# TAILOR THE SENSOR FOR THE APPLICATION

**H<sub>2</sub> SENSOR WORKS IN A WIDE VARIETY OF APPLICATIONS BUT  
CANNOT WORK IN EVERY ENVIRONMENT  
*RIGHT SENSOR FOR RIGHT APPLICATION***

**H<sub>2</sub> SENSOR OPERATION UNDER WATER**

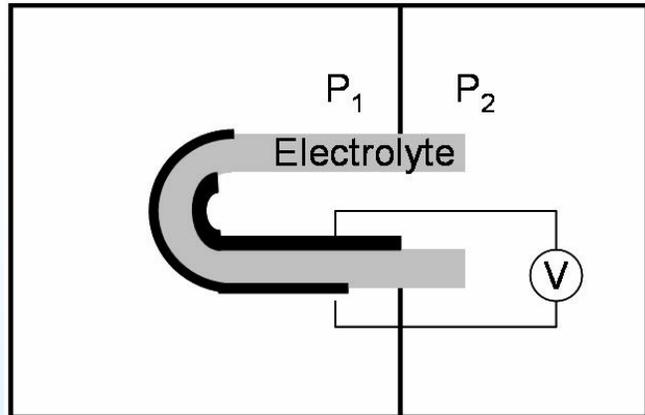


## INCREASED MINIATURIZATION

# MICROFABRICATION IS NOT JUST MAKING SOMETHING SMALLER

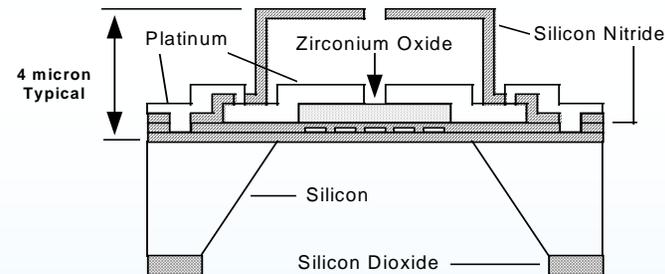
## MICROFABRICATED OXYGEN SENSOR TECHNOLOGY

- OXYGEN SENSORS HAVE BEEN IN CARS FOR YEARS; SIGNIFICANT POWER CONSUMPTION (ORDER OF WATTS)
- SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IN DEVELOPING A MICROFABRICATED AND MICROMACHINED SENSOR FOR MINIMAL SIZE, WEIGHT AND POWER CONSUMPTION (ON THE ORDER OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIWATTS)
- HOWEVER, THE SIZE OF THE STRUCTURE COMBINED WITH THE OPERATING TEMPERATURE HAVE LED TO THEIR OWN CHALLENGES IN DEVICE FABRICATION

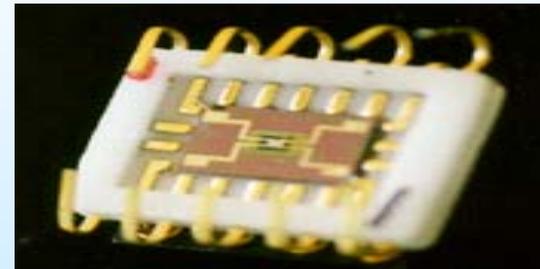


Heated Exhaust Gas Oxygen (HEGO) or Lambda Sensor

$$E = (RT/nF) \ln(P_1/P_2)$$



Not to scale:



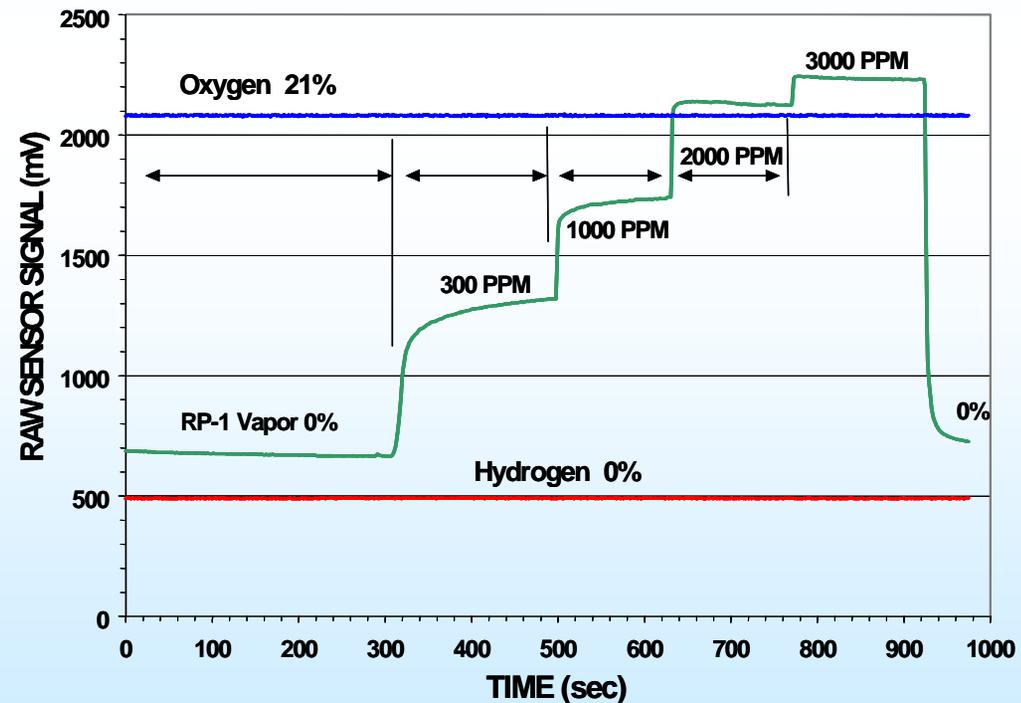
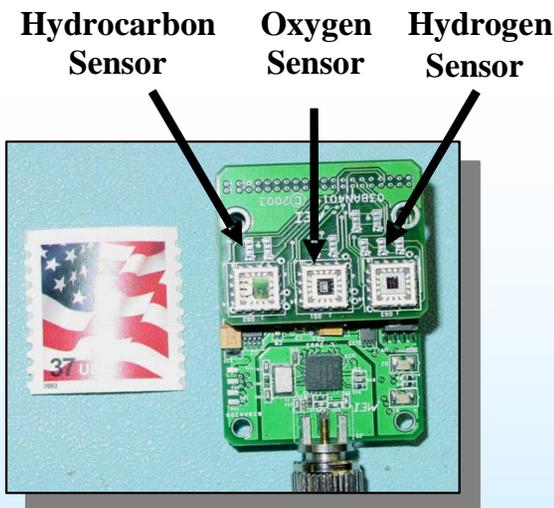
ZrO<sub>2</sub> Oxygen Sensor



# COMPLETE STAND-ALONE SMART SENSOR SYSTEM MULTICOMPONENT SENSOR ARRAY SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGIES ALLOW POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

## “LICK AND STICK” LEAK SENSOR SYSTEM

- THREE SENSORS, SIGNAL CONDITIONING, POWER, AND TELEMETRY ALL IN SINGLE PACKAGE
- H<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, AND HYDROCARBON SENSORS ALLOW DETECTION OF BOTH FUEL AND OXYGEN
- BUILT IN TEST OF ELECTRONICS AND SENSOR
- BEING MATURED FOR CREW LAUNCH VEHICLE AVIONICS



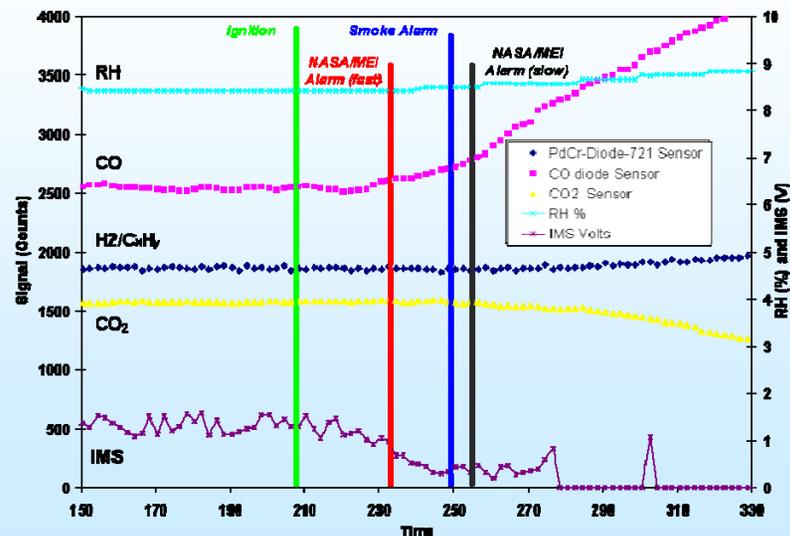
# SENSOR ARRAY MULTIPARAMETER/ORTHOGONALITY

## MICRO-FABRICATED GAS SENSORS FOR LOW FALSE ALARMS

2005 R&D 100 AWARD WINNER

NASA 2005 TURNING GOALS INTO REALITY AA CHOICE

- SIGNIFICANT FALSE ALARM RATE FOR FIRE DETECTORS IN CARGO BAY OF AIRCRAFT AS HIGH AS 200:1
- COMBINE BOTH PARTICULATE AND CHEMICAL SENSORS TO IMPROVE SENSOR SYSTEM RELIABILITY
  - CO AND CO<sub>2</sub> SENSORS CENTRAL TO APPROACH
  - MINIATURIZATION OF PARTICULATE SENSOR
- FAA CARGO BAY FIRE TESTING
  - NO FALSE ALARMS
  - CONSISTENT DETECTION OF FIRES

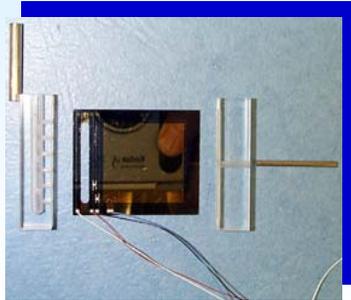


# MINIATURIZED SYSTEM TAILORED FOR THE APPLICATION

## DUST MONITORING

1

Low cost sensor fabricated using wafer processing techniques

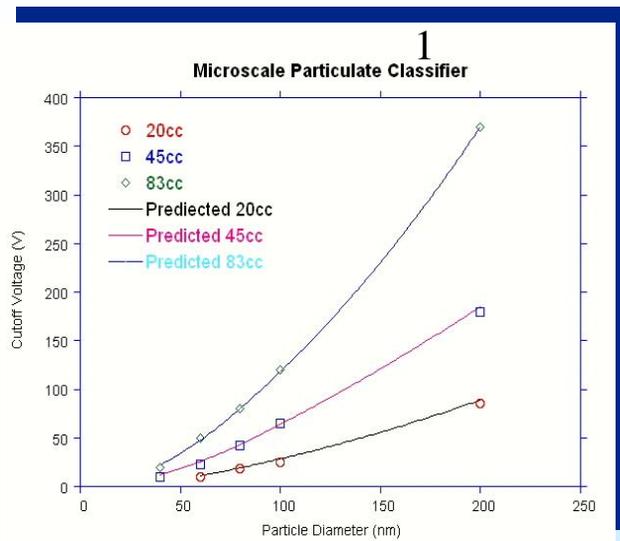


2



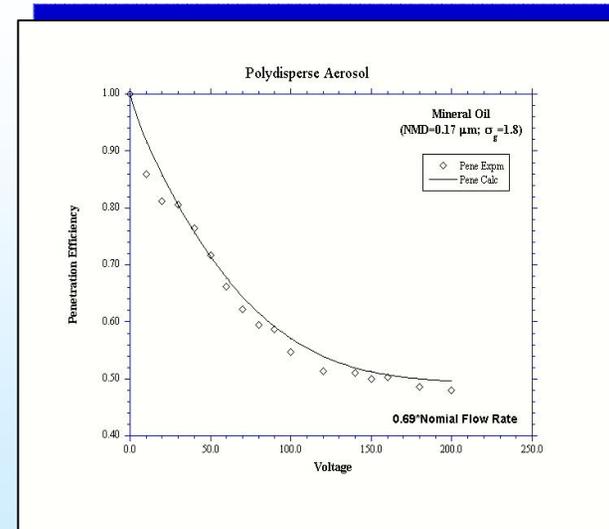
Completed sensor contrast with traditional macroscale classifier.

2



Good agreement between predicted and observed performance.

4



Correct retrieval of size distribution of test aerosol.



# **NANOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

## **NANO DIMENSIONAL CONTROL PREVALENT IN CHEM/BIO SENSORS**

- **NANO CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SENSOR STRUCTURES STRONGLY PREFERRED EVEN IF SENSOR ISN'T LABELED A "NANO SENSOR"**
  - **WE ARE MEASURING VARYING NUMBERS OF MOLECULES**
- **IF NANOTECHNOLOGY ALREADY PRESENT IN CHEM/BIO SENSOR DEVELOPMENT, THEN:**
  - **WHAT STAYS THE SAME AND WHAT'S NEW?**
  - **WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES IN NANOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT?**
  - **WHAT IS THE ROLE/ADVANTAGE OF NANO TECHNOLOGY**

### **SAME**

- **APPLICATIONS DON'T CARE THAT IT IS NANO, NEED IMPROVED CAPABILITIES**
- **STANDARD SENSOR TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, POTENTIAL, AND DIRECTIONS SET BY THE ADVENT OF MICROTECHNOLOGY REMAIN CONSTANT**
- **SENSITIVITY, SELECTIVITY, STABILITY, RESPONSE TIME, TAILOR FOR THE APPLICATION, "LICK AND STICK", ETC.**
- **PACKAGING STILL SIGNIFICANT COMPONENT OF SYSTEM**
- **AS WITH MICRO, CAN ONLY GO AS FAR AS THE SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGIES**
- **MULTIPLE SENSOR PLATFORMS MAY STILL BE NECESSARY DEPENDING ON THE APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENT**

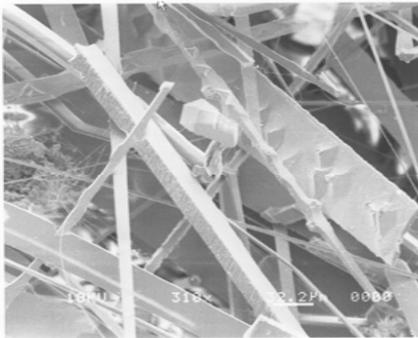
### **TARGETED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

- **MICRO-NANO CONTACT FORMATION**
- **NANOMATERIAL STRUCTURE CONTROL**
- **OTHER NANO OXIDE MATERIALS**

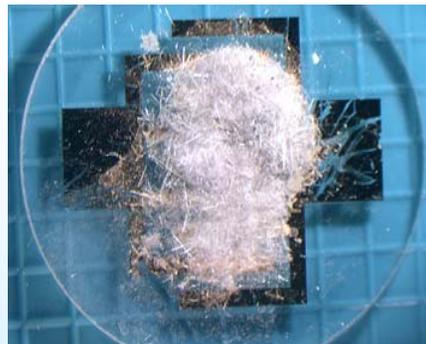


# MICRO-NANO CONTACT FORMATION

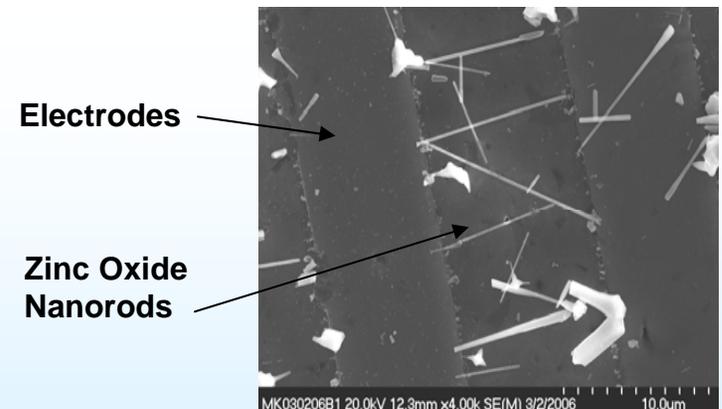
- NO MATTER HOW GOOD THE SENSOR, IF YOU CANNOT MAKE CONTACT WITH IT, THEN IT WILL NOT BE INEFFECTIVE
- MICRO-NANO INTEGRATION/CONTACTS
  - MAJOR QUESTION FOR NANOSTRUCTURED BASED SENSORS: HOW ARE THE NANOSTRUCTURED MATERIALS INTEGRATED INTO A MICRO/MACRO STRUCTURE
- MANUAL METHODS GENERALLY INVOLVE REPEATABILITY ISSUES E.G.
  - DENSITY OF THE NANOROD MATERIALS,
  - QUALITY OF THE CONTACT
  - VARIATION OF BASELINE MATERIAL PROPERTIES
- BASIC WORK ON-GOING TO IMPROVE MICRO-NANO CONTACTS E.G. USE OF DIELECTROPHORESIS TO ALIGN NANOSTRUCTURES



**NANOSTRUCTURE  
FABRICATED BY THERMAL  
EVAPORATION-  
CONDENSATION PROCESS.**



**NANORODS CONTACTED  
WITH THE SUBSTRATE VIA  
A SILVER EPOXY**



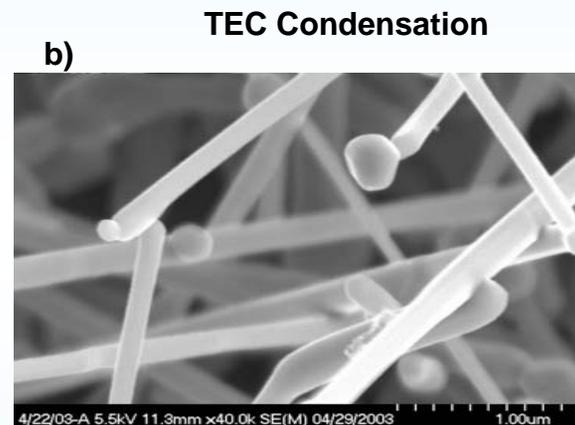
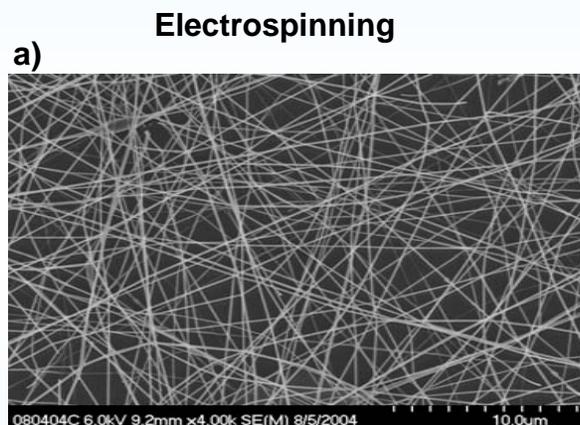
**ZINC OXIDE NANORODS AFTER  
DIELECTROPHORESIS ACROSS  
INTERDIGITATED FINGERS**



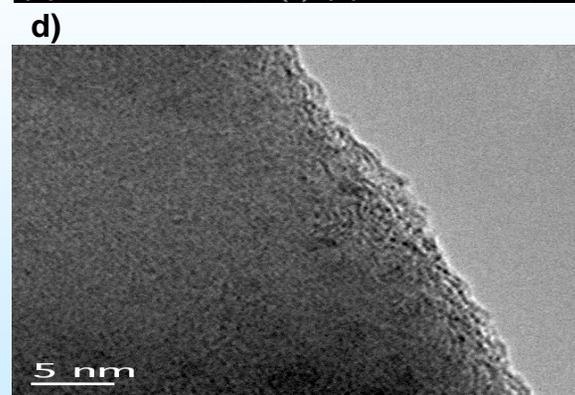
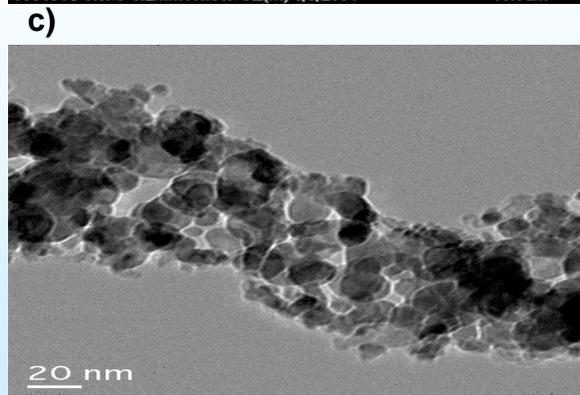
# NANOMATERIAL STRUCTURE CONTROL

- DIFFERENT PROCESSING TECHNIQUES RESULT IN VERY DIFFERENT CRYSTAL STRUCTURES.
  - APPROACH: CONTROL NANOSTRUCTURE CRYSTAL STRUCTURE FORMATION TO CONTROL SENSOR RESPONSE
  - SNO<sub>2</sub>: SENSOR RESPONSE IS GRAIN DEPENDENT FOR MICRO/NANO GRAINED MATERIAL
  - SENSING MECHANISM FOR NANOSTRUCTURES STILL BEING EXPLORED

SEM

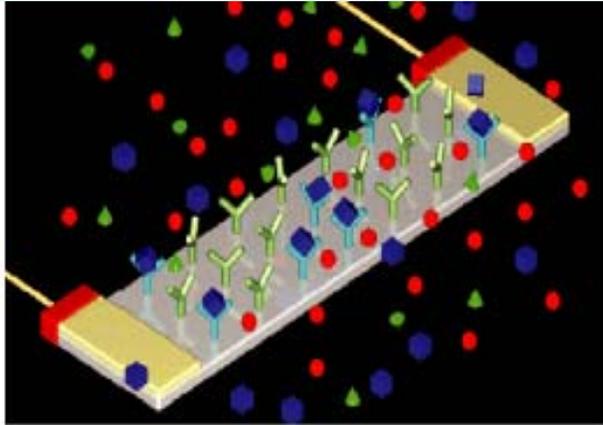


HRTEM



# “LOCK AND KEY” CHEMICAL SENSORS USING NANOSTRUCTURES

- **OBJECTIVE: DEMONSTRATE THE FUNDAMENTAL ABILITY TO ASSEMBLE THE ULTIMATE “LOCK AND KEY” CHEMICAL SENSOR DETECTION SYSTEM**
- **STATE OF THE ART:**

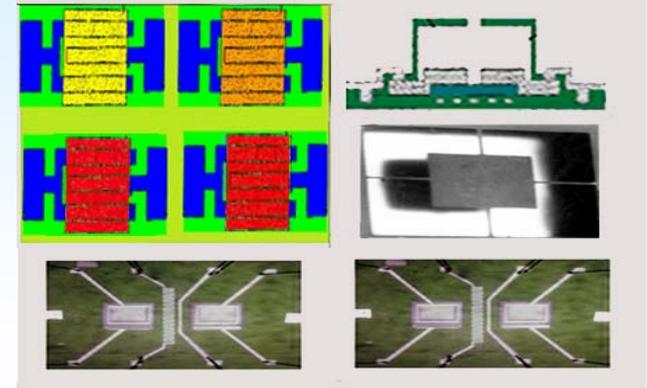


Limited Chemical Selectivity by use  
“Lock and Key” Approach



Many Species,  
Complex Structures  
Lead to Limited  
Ability For Species  
Identification

## NASA GRC HIGH TEMP NOSE APPROACH



Nose Approaches necessary to attempt to understand environment but still limited in species identification: multispecies identification, closely related species, significant false positives

- **TECHNICALLY ADDRESS THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION “WHAT IS NANO GOOD FOR?” IN THE AREA OF CHEMICAL SENSORS:**
  - **NOT SMALL NANO STRUCTURES FOR BILLION MOLECULE MEASUREMENTS/ IN SUCH APPLICATIONS MAY CONSIDER THIN FILMS OR ALTERNATE SENSOR PLATFORMS**
  - **INSTEAD USE NANOSTRUCTURES FOR DETECTION ON MOLECULAR LEVEL**
- **ARRANGE THE CHEMICAL SENSOR STRUCTURE TO “FIT” THE MOLECULE IN QUESTION**
- **VERIFY THE PRESENCE OF THE MOLECULE WITH AN ELECTROCHEMICAL SIGNATURE**
- **FABRICATE “DESIGNER” CHEMICAL SENSORS**



# **RELEVANCE TO BIOMEDICAL STUDIES AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS**



# **BREATH ANALYSIS USING MICROSENSORS**

*A MicroSensor Array for Exercise and Health Monitoring  
John Glenn Biomedical Engineering Consortium (JGBEC)*

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Case Western Reserve University  
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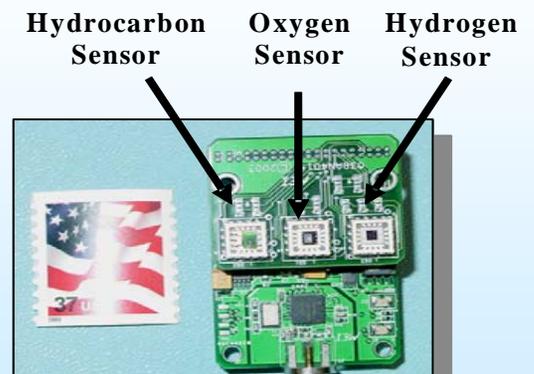
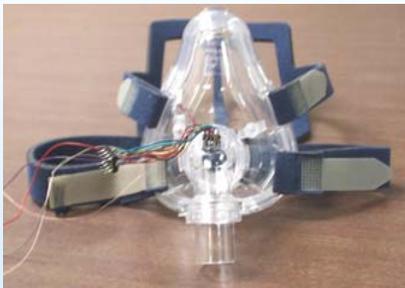
**Dr. J. Stetter  
Transducer Technology Inc.  
Chicago, IL**



# *A MicroSensor Array for Exercise and Health Monitoring*

## *John Glenn Biomedical Engineering Consortium (JGBEC)*

- EXPAND ON PREVIOUS BREATH ANALYSIS WORK
- USE ARRAY OF SENSORS OF VERY DIFFERENT TYPES TO MONITOR BREATH FOR EXERCISE AND HEALTH
  - CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> MONITORING WILL BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE NO<sub>x</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, HYDROCARBONS, CO, pH, and T
  - NASA GRC, CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION, MAKEL ENGINEERING, TRANSDUCERS INC, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
- USE GAS PATTERN MEASURED FOR EXERCISE PARAMETERS BUT ALSO AS INDICATORS OF OVERALL HEALTH
- EVALUATE MATURITY OF PRESENT MICROSENSOR TECHNOLOGY FOR BREATH MONITORING APPLICATIONS



Lick and Stick Sensor System

**MEI** Makel Engineering Inc.

THE CLEVELAND CLINIC  
FOUNDATION



# Breath Sensor System Overview



Sensor operates using PDA or Laptop for user interface

## •Sensors

- CO<sub>2</sub> – Solid State - Lithium Phosphate, migrate to Nafion based sensor
- O<sub>2</sub> – Nafion based sensor
- CO – Wet Electrochemical Cell
- NO<sub>x</sub> – Wet Electrochemical Cell
- H<sub>2</sub>S – Wet Electrochemical Cell

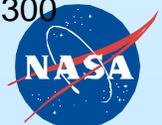
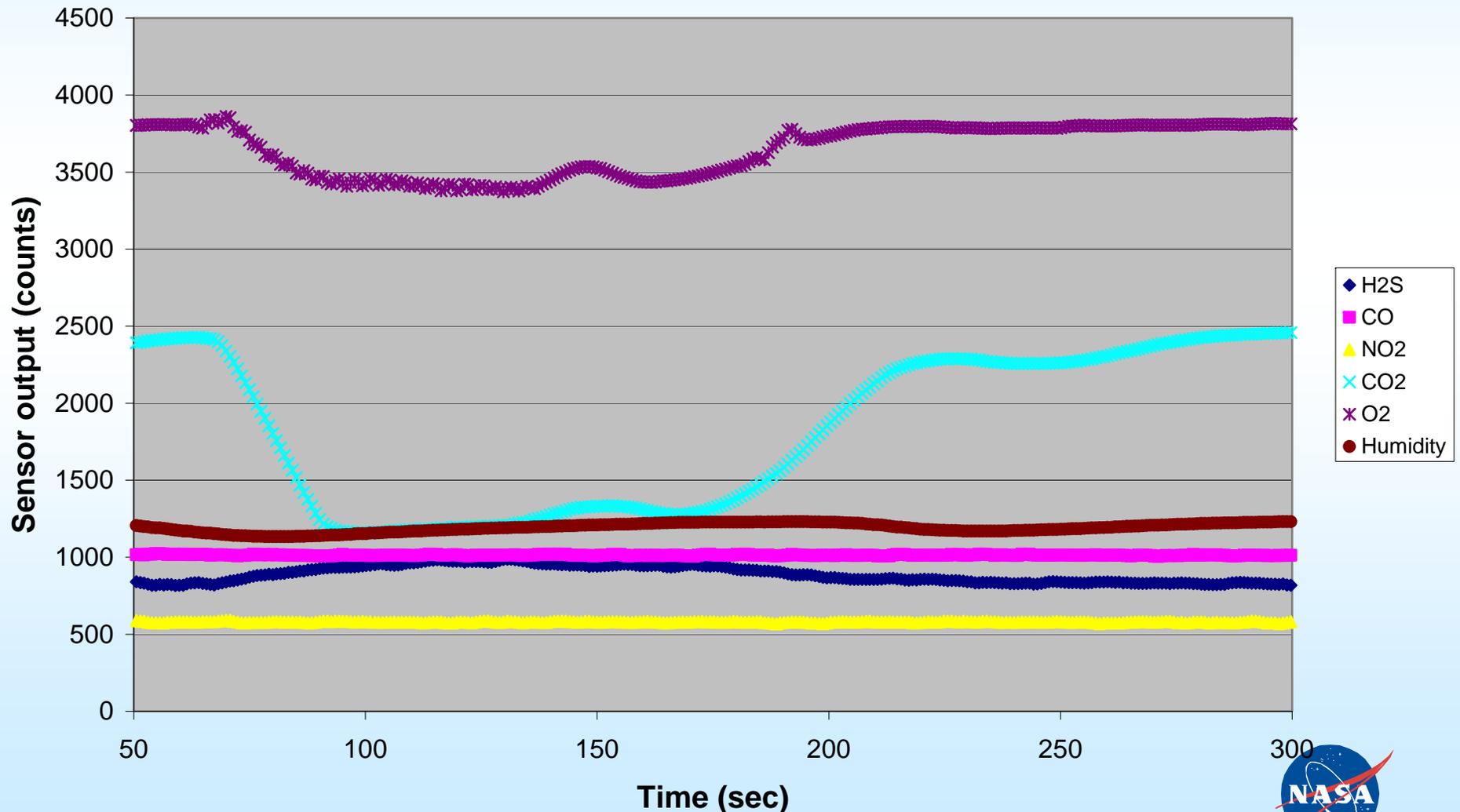


Breath Sensor System – includes mouthpiece for breath collection, Nafion drying tube in sample line, sensor manifold with PDA interface, and mini sampling pump



# Breath Sensor Response Data

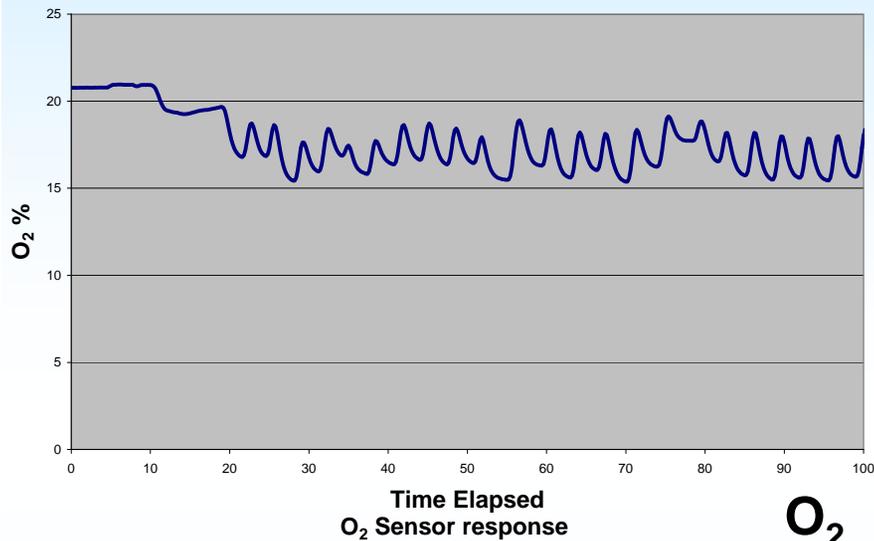
- Testing at Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Makel Engineering, Inc.
  - Comparison to clinical test equipment
- Baseline lab test results show response to O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> during breathing
  - Small response from CO sensor, no response from H<sub>2</sub>S or NO<sub>x</sub>



# Breath Sensor Response Data

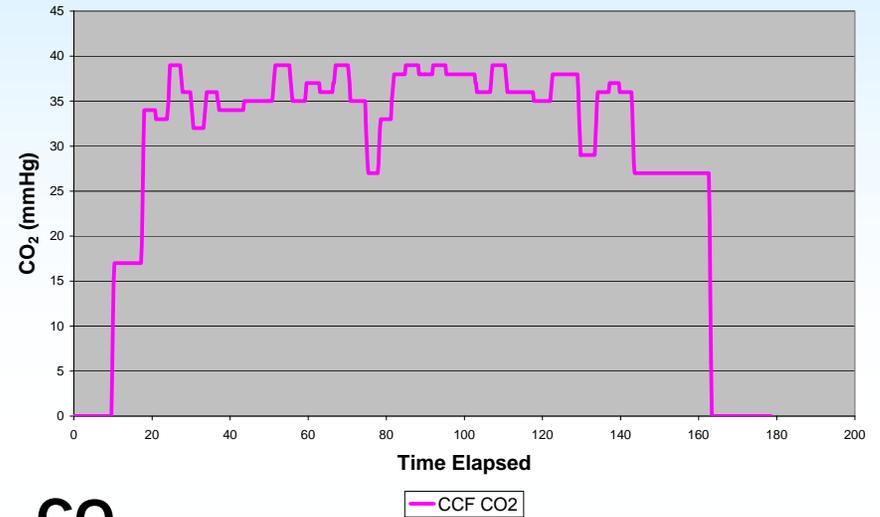
HIGHER TEMPERATURE CO<sub>2</sub> AND O<sub>2</sub> SENSORS PROVIDED RESULTS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF LAB BENCH INSTRUMENTATION

O<sub>2</sub> Analyzer Response



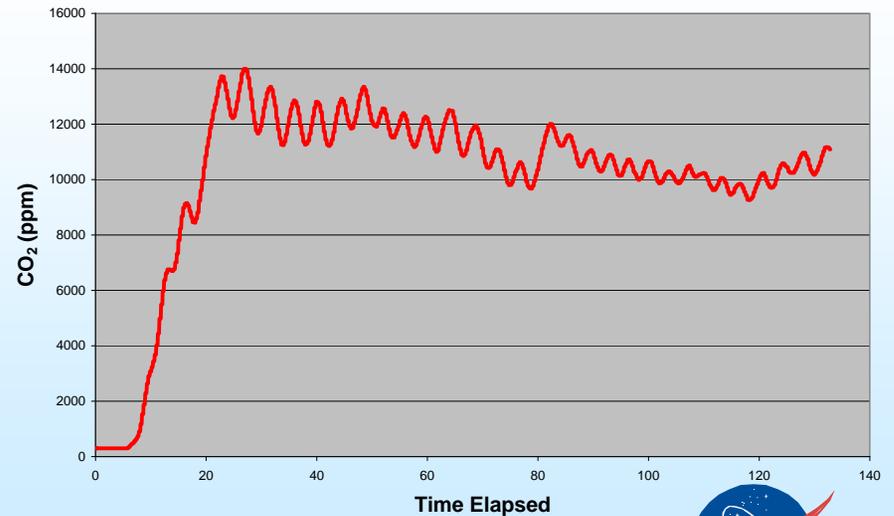
Analyzer

Benchtop CO<sub>2</sub> Monitor



CO<sub>2</sub>

CO<sub>2</sub> Sensor Breath by Breath Response



Sensor



# **JBEC SENSOR ARRAY TASK CONCLUSION**

- **THE PROJECT FABRICATED, TESTED, AND DELIVERED AN INTEGRATED BREATH MONITORING SENSOR SYSTEM INCLUDING AN ARRAY OF GAS MICROSENSORS, DATA ACQUISITION AND DISPLAY UNIT, SAMPLE PUMP, AND MOUTHPIECE.**
- **SIGNIFICANT MINIATURIZATION OF THE TESTING SYSTEM OCCURRED AND THE COMPLETE SYSTEM WAS CHARACTERIZED AT THE CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION INCLUDING PATIENT TESTING, AND AT MAKEL ENGINEERING, INC.**
- **OVERALL THIS WORK HAS EVALUATED THE MATURITY AND CAPABILITY OF MICROSENSORS TO REPLACE LAB RACK SIZED EQUIPMENT WITH A MINIATURIZED METABOLIC GAS MONITOR SYSTEM.**
- **TESTING DEMONSTRATED THAT THE HIGHER TEMPERATURE O<sub>2</sub> AND CO<sub>2</sub> SENSORS PROVIDE THE FUNCTIONALITY REQUIRED FOR A BREATH MONITORING SYSTEM.**
  - **CAN IN PRINCIPLE BE USED TO REPLACE LAB RACK SIZED EQUIPMENT WITH PORTABLE SYSTEMS. THESE CHEMICAL SPECIES ARE CONSIDERED THE HIGHEST PRIORITY MEASUREMENTS IN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY.**
  - **TESTS WITH LESS MATURE SENSOR TECHNOLOGY WERE EITHER INCONCLUSIVE OR POINTED TO SPECIFIC DESIGN CHANGES.**



# FUTURE DIRECTIONS



# **CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION SUGGESTIONS**

- **WHILE THE USER MIGHT LEVERAGE SENSOR TECHNOLOGY BEING DEVELOPED ELSEWHERE, UNIQUE PROBLEMS REQUIRE SPECIALIZED SOLUTIONS.**
  - **BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS PRESENT SIGNIFICANT UNIQUE CHALLENGES**
- **FULL FIELD DESIGN APPROACH: SENSORS SYSTEMS COMBINED WITH ELECTRONICS AND SOFTWARE FOR DATA PROCESSING AND INTERPRETATION FROM THE BEGINNING**
  - **AVOID PUTTING MAJOR SYSTEM COMPONENTS ON AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT**
  - **COMPLETE TEAM APPROACH DURING DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING BOTH DEVELOPERS AND USERS**
  - **UNDERSTAND REQUIREMENTS EARLY**
- **DESIGN SENSOR SYSTEM TO OPTIMIZE MEASUREMENT OF MULTIPLE PARAMETERS SIMULTANEOUSLY TO IMPROVE FULL-FIELD SYSTEM INFORMATION AND MEASUREMENT RELIABILITY**
- **DEVELOP SENSOR SYSTEMS WHICH INCLUDE INTEGRATED INTELLIGENCE WHILE MINIMIZING SIZE, WEIGHT, AND POWER CONSUMPTION.**
  - **PROVIDE THE USER WHAT THEY WANT TO KNOW**
  - **HAVE THE BACKGROUND MATERIAL AVAILABLE**
  - **PROVIDE BUILT-IN CALIBRATION AND SELF-TEST**
  - **BRING INTELLIGENCE DOWN TO LOWEST COMPONENT LEVEL FEASIBLE**
- **DEMONSTRATE TECHNOLOGY RELIABILITY AND DURABILITY EXTENSIVELY BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION**



# LONG-TERM VISION

- BREATH MONITORING CAN REVOLUTIONIZE HEALTH DIAGNOSIS AND CAN BE ENABLED BY INTELLIGENT MICRO/NANO SYSTEMS
- DESIGNER DIAGNOSTICS SYSTEMS TAILORED TO OPTIMIZE THE MEASUREMENT DOWN TO THE INDIVIDUAL PATIENT
- PART OF FULL FIELD DIAGNOSIS SYSTEM WHICH COULD ALSO BE ENABLED WITH INTELLIGENT MICRO/NANO SYSTEMS
  - IDEALLY WITH A RANGE OF NON-INVASIVE DIAGNOSTIC MEASUREMENTS
  - HEALTH DIAGNOSTICS SYSTEMS WHICH CAN SMELL, HEAR, SEE, FEEL, PROCESS INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATE, AND SELF-RECONFIGURE ALL IN MINIATURIZED FIELD APPLICABLE SYSTEMS
- DO SOMETHING WITH THE DATA: DIAGNOSIS COMBINED WITH TREATMENT
- NO MATTER HOW GOOD THE TECHNOLOGY, IT WILL NOT BE USED UNTIL IT PROVES ITSELF



A POSSIBLE VISION:  
A **“SMART” SUIT** ABLE TO  
PROVIDE COMPLETE  
DIAGNOSTICS AND HEALTH  
CARE



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